

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM
HIGH TUNNEL SYSTEM INITIATIVE
APPLICATION EVALUATION RANKING TOOL—STATE AND LOCAL QUESTIONS**

State Ranking Questions - 400 total points possible	Points
Answer ALL of the following criteria that apply regarding the project's impact on addressing resource concerns. Maximum points 250.	
1(a) The Schedule of Operations includes a high tunnel system which will assist the producer to improve plant productivity, health, and vigor.	150 Point(s)
1(b) The Schedule of Operations includes conservation practices (CPs) or supports the use of existing CPs (such as cover crops, residue management, and residue and tillage management) that will result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) score as determined by Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation 2 (RUSLE 2).	50 Point(s)
1(c) The Schedule of Operations includes supporting CPs necessary to support a new or existing high tunnel system in order to address soil erosion.	50 Point(s)
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the project's ability to address excess nutrients and organics in surface water.	
2(a) The Schedule of Operations includes a high tunnel system which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body (Total Maximum Daily Load [TMDL], 303d, etc.).	75 Point(s)
2(b) The Schedule of Operations includes a high tunnel system which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body.	25 Point(s)
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address harmful levels of pesticides in surface water.	
3(a) The Schedule of Operations includes a high tunnel system which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body (TMDL, 303d, etc.).	75 Point(s)
3(b) The Schedule of Operations includes a high tunnel system which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body.	25 Point(s)

Local Ranking Questions—250 total points possible	Points
1. Application includes at least one CP with a lifespan of 10 years or greater, as documented in the Field Office Technical Guide.	50 Point(s)
2. CPs are scheduled to be completed within four years.	50 Point(s)
3. Participant has a conservation plan approved at least 30 days prior to the application cutoff date that addresses a primary resource concern.	50 Point(s)
4. Application was deferred from a previous funding period in the Program Contracts System.	100 Point(s)